



PANTHER NEWS

News Letter Of Glencoe-Silver Lake School District # 2859

FALL 2026 EDITION

www.gsl.k12.mn.us

Proudly Serving the communities of Biscay, Brownton, Glencoe, New Auburn, Plato, and Silver Lake

Dear GSL Students, Families, Staff, and Community,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year!

As summer ends, we are excited to welcome everyone back for another year of learning, growth, and opportunity. The beginning of a new school year always brings a sense of optimism, and we look forward to all that our students will accomplish in the months ahead.

At GSL, we continue to believe that our greatest strength is our students. Every day they demonstrate kindness, perseverance, creativity, and a willingness to learn. It is fun to see those learning opportunities take place every day. Success at GSL is measured in many ways—from academic achievement, artistic performances, athletic accomplishments, and leadership opportunities to the everyday acts of respect, responsibility, integrity, and honesty.

These things help live our mission of “Creating a culture where education is valued, excellence is expected, and life-long learning thrives.” This mission remains focused on preparing every student for success in school, career, and life. Today's graduates enter a world that is changing rapidly, making critical thinking, collaboration, communication, adaptability, and responsible use of technology more important than ever. Our teachers and staff work hard to provide engaging learning experiences that challenge students, encourage curiosity, and build confidence. At GSL, we recognize that every student learns differently. Our focus is on helping each learner reach their full potential by providing meaningful support, timely feedback, and opportunities to grow. We believe learning is a process, and our goal is to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed. We are excited to get the school year started.

Thank you for your continued support of GSL Schools. I wish each of you a safe, successful, and rewarding 2026–2027 school year.

Go Panthers

Chris Sonju
Superintendent of Schools

Chris Sonju
Superintendent of Schools
320-864-2498
CSonju@gsl.k12.mn.us



Welcome BACK TO SCHOOL!



***Full calendar
available on
www.gsl.k12.mn.us**



PICTURE DAYS

SEPT. 14	Lincoln Elementary
SEPT. 15	Lakeside Elementary
SEPT. 17	Jr High/Sr. High

FLU SHOT CLINICS

SEPT. 17	@ Lakeside Elm 3:30 – 5:00 P.M.
SEPT. 18	@ GSL High School 3:00 – 5:30 P.M.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE DATES FALL 2026:

Lincoln & Lakeside Elementary:

Oct. 12 and 13 – Evening K-6 Parent – Teacher Conference

Glencoe- Silver Lake Jr/Sr. High School:

Oct. 12 – Grade 7-12 Evening conferences

Oct. 14, 15 and Oct. 16 No School K-12 Education MN
Conference



Check-In Day & First Day of School

LINCOLN & LAKESIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kindergarten through 6th Grade “Check In Day”

- ✓ Wednesday, Aug. 26 – 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- ✓ Monday, Aug. 31 – 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Sept. 1 – First Day of Classes K-6

GSL JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 7th- 12th OPEN HOUSE Aug. 26 – 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

7th Gr. & New Student Orientation Aug. 26 – 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Aug. 31 – First Day of Classes 7-12



Check-In Dia y Primer Dia De Escuela

ESCUELA ELEMENTAL LINCOLN & LAKESIDE

Kindergarten a Gardo 6 Check in Dia

- ✓ Miercoles, 26 de agosto – 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- ✓ Lunes, 31 de agosto – 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Sept. 1 – Primer Dia de Classes K-6

GSL JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Grados 7th- 12th OPEN HOUSe Casa Abierta Agosto 26 – 3:00PM
a las 6:00PM

Orientacion para Estudiantes de 7th Grado y Nuevos
Estudiantes 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Agosto 31 – Primer Dia de Classes 7-12

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PANTHER NEWS
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ECRWSS
GLENCOE-SILVER LAKE
SCHOOL DISTRICT PATRON



RESPECT



INTEGRITY



RESPONSIBILITY



HONESTY

Glencoe-Silver Lake Junior/Senior High School

Welcome Back GSL Junior/Senior High School Families!

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Glencoe-Silver Lake Junior/Senior High School!

I hope you and your family have had the opportunity to enjoy a relaxing summer. As August approaches, our staff has been hard at work preparing for another outstanding school year, and we can't wait to welcome our students back into the building.

Whether you're a returning Panther family or joining us for the first time, we are excited to partner with you as we help every student learn, grow, and succeed.

“To Connect. To Lead. To Inspire.”

These three words are more than our district's mission—they guide everything we do at GSL Junior/Senior High School.

To Connect

- We believe strong relationships are the foundation of student success. We are committed to creating a school where every student feels welcomed, valued, and connected to their teachers, classmates, and school community. We believe students learn best when they know they belong, and we are committed to building a school where every student feels seen, supported, and valued.

To Lead

- Leadership is about much more than holding a title. We encourage students to lead through their actions by demonstrating character, responsibility, kindness, and respect both inside and outside the classroom.

To Inspire

- Our goal is to inspire every student to discover their strengths, pursue their passions, and reach their full potential. Whether a student's future includes college, the workforce, the military, or another path, we want every Panther to leave GSL prepared and confident for what comes next.

Together, these three commitments shape the work we do every day. Our goal is simple: to provide a safe, welcoming school where students are challenged, supported, and encouraged to do their very best.

Thank you for partnering with us as we work together to make the 2026-2027 school year another outstanding year for our students.

As we prepare for the new school year, I'd like to share a few important updates and reminders.

What’s New This Year

Every decision we make is centered around one question: “What is best for students?”

The updates below are all designed to create classrooms where students can stay focused, build relationships, and get the most out of every school day.

1) Classroom Technology

Technology remains an important part of teaching and learning at GSL.

This year, GSL Junior/Senior High School will transition to a classroom technology cart model. Instead of every student being assigned a device, teachers will have access to classroom technology carts and will use devices when they best support instruction.

Students will continue to have access to technology throughout the school day whenever it supports classroom learning. This approach allows teachers to intentionally balance technology with classroom discussion, collaboration, hands-on learning, and problem-solving.

Our goal is simple: use technology when it improves learning—not simply because it's available.

2) RAP (Reaching All Panthers)

Beginning this school year, RAP (Reaching All Panthers)—our advisory period—will be held on the first Wednesday of each month.

RAP gives students dedicated time to receive important school announcements, participate in Character Strong lessons, celebrate accomplishments, strengthen relationships with classmates and staff, and continue building the positive school culture that makes GSL a great place to learn.

3) Cell Phone Expectations

One of the biggest successes from last school year was our updated cell phone expectations. Because of the tremendous support from our students, families, and staff, classrooms became more focused, students were more engaged, and we saw a noticeable increase in face-to-face conversations throughout the school day. Thank you for your continued partnership in making this initiative such a success.

Because of those positive results, we will continue with the same expectations this school year.

To help maintain a focused and respectful learning environment, cell phones and personal electronic devices—including AirPods, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, chromebooks, or any device not issued by the classroom teacher—must remain put away from the first bell until the final bell each school day.

The only exception is during a student's assigned lunch period while they are in the cafeteria.

If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call the Junior/Senior High School Office, and we will make sure your message is delivered promptly.

For complete details regarding our electronic device policy, please refer to the Junior/Senior High School Student Handbook.

4) Backpacks and Lockers

Backpacks will continue to be stored in student lockers throughout the school day rather than being brought into classrooms. This helps keep classrooms organized and minimizes distractions during instruction.

Every student will be assigned a locker.

- Junior High students will receive a locker with a built-in lock.
- Senior High students will receive a school-issued combination lock.

Welcome to Our New Staff

We are excited to welcome two outstanding educators to the GSL Junior/Senior High School team this year.

- **Martin Biondo** – Art Teacher
- **Megan Stein** – Academic Dean/Counselor

Please join us in welcoming Martin and Megan to the Panther family. We know they will make a positive impact on our students and school community.

Beyond the Classroom

While learning in the classroom is incredibly important, some of the most meaningful experiences happen beyond it.

Whether it's athletics, music, theater, student organizations, clubs, leadership opportunities, or community service, we encourage every student to get involved and find something they enjoy.

These experiences help students build confidence, make new friends, develop leadership skills, and create memories that last a lifetime. They also help students discover who they are, develop new interests, and find where they belong.

If your child is interested in joining an activity or you have questions about the opportunities available, please contact our Activities Office at 320-864-2455.

We'd love to help every student find a place to connect, contribute, and grow.

Glencoe-Silver Lake Junior/Senior High School Continued....

Important Dates

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- **Tuesday, August 26** – 7th Grade & New Student Orientation (2:00–3:00 PM)
- **Tuesday, August 26** – Open House (3:00–6:00 PM)
- **Monday, August 31** – First Day of School
- **Thursday, September 17** – JH/SH School Pictures
- **Monday, October 12** – Parent-Teacher Conferences

Stay Connected

A strong partnership between home and school is one of the biggest factors in student success, and we appreciate your continued support.

To stay connected throughout the year, we encourage families to use:

- **Campus Parent Portal** to monitor grades, attendance, and assignments.
- **District Website** for news, calendars, announcements, and important updates.
- **Email and Phone Communication** to connect with teachers, counselors, and administrators whenever questions arise.

Working together, we can provide every student with the support they need to be successful

Closing



Matt Foss
Principal – GSL Jr/Sr High School
320-864-2401
MFoss@gsl.k12.mn.us

Thank you for the trust you place in us each day and for sharing your children with us. It is truly a privilege to be a part of their educational journey.

We are honored to partner with you in helping every student grow academically, socially, and personally. Together, we will continue to build a school where students feel connected, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential.

Have a wonderful rest of your summer. We look forward to seeing everyone on Monday, August 31st!

Here's to another year of connecting, leading, and inspiring.

Go Panthers!

Matt Foss & Sarah Beckman



Sarah Beckman
Asst. Principal
GSL Jr/Sr High School
320-864-2449
SBeckman@gsl.k12.mn.us

Lincoln Elementary & Lakeside Elementary

The start of school is fast approaching and elementary staff members at Lincoln & Lakeside are eager to welcome our students back to school! As your educational partners, we know that parent/guardian involvement and home/school connections are crucial to your child’s success. Our check-in appointments at Lincoln & Lakeside will provide an opportunity for parents and school staff to partner in support of children.

Lincoln & Lakeside Check-in Days

Check-in appointments with your child’s teacher are scheduled for Wednesday, 8/26 and Monday, 8/31. Detailed information was sent to your email earlier in August. Please call Kim Ruschmeier (Lincoln) at 320-864-2666 or Lori Hatlestad (Lakeside) at 320-864-2500 with questions.

Student Placement

Your child’s classroom placement is determined by academic needs, behavior characteristics, and overall composition of students at individual grade levels. Teaching staff dedicated hours of thoughtful work in spring to place children in a classroom that will support learning at the highest level. Your written input, if provided, was considered during these placement sessions.

Changes in classroom placement will not be made at this time.

Please welcome the opportunities provided by a new school year!

Character Strong

Character Strong is our district's social-emotional learning program designed to help students build the skills they need to be successful in school and in life. Students learn important character traits such as respect, responsibility, empathy, perseverance, and kindness through engaging lessons and activities. Character Strong also teaches students how to build positive relationships, regulate emotions, solve problems, and make responsible decisions. Our goal is to help students grow into caring, confident, and responsible members of our school community.

There are nine monthly Character Strong elementary themes:

1. Respect – Treating others, yourself, and your environment with care and consideration.
2. Responsibility – Being accountable for your actions and following through on commitments.
3. Gratitude – Recognizing and appreciating the people and things that positively impact your life.
4. Empathy – Understanding and caring about the thoughts and feelings of others.
5. Cooperation – Working together respectfully to achieve common goals.
6. Perseverance – Continuing to work through challenges and not giving up when things are difficult.
7. Honesty – Being truthful and acting with integrity.
8. Creativity – Using your imagination and problem-solving skills to develop new ideas and solutions.
9. Courage – Doing the right thing, even when it is difficult or requires bravery



Bill Butler
Elementary Principal
320-864-2677
BButler@gsl.k12.mn.us

Elementary Themes

Lincoln Elementary – “Rockin’ Our Way to Success”

Lakeside Elementary – “Be the One”

Staff will use these themes to engage students as we go about our daily work to encourage, nurture, motivate, and teach.



Joy Freitag
Elementary Asst. Principal
320-864-2501
JFreitag@gsl.k12.mn.us

GSL Food Service

Welcome to Chartwells K12 Food & Nutrition Services

The entire kitchen staff here at Glencoe-Silver Lake Schools is excited to welcome students back to school where they will experience flavors, and events sure to inspire a happy and healthy 2026-27 school year! We do more than feed hungry students at GSL Public Schools. We improve the well-being of our students by preparing fresh, delicious and nutritious meals they love. We engage students and all their senses through the creation of new and fresh dining experiences that improve their school day. Our wide variety of menu items, programs and initiatives nourish student's bodies, minds and spirits.

Breakfast Items - The fruit smoothie bar served on Thursday, as well as the Made-To-Order Omelet station on Wednesday mornings will continue weekly. New breakfast items will continue to roll out as the year goes forward.

Lunch Items – The “Sono” line will continue this year, and we will add condiments to keep it fresh and exciting. It is our version of “Chipotle” and we will offer it daily at the HS. We will run Global Eats throughout the school year. The school cafeteria is often one of the first places a child gets to taste and learn about foods from outside their family’s recipes or traditional cultural dishes. This program highlights the unique ingredients and authentic flavors from cuisines around the world.

Snacks - An after-school snack program will be offered in the high school café for students participating in afterschool activities such as athletic practices, ESL, Drama, Robotics, Community Education programs and much more. Look on the Meal Price page for an explanation of the snack plans offered.

Dietary Needs

Chartwells believes managing food allergies is not just about helping children avoid the foods to which they are allergic, it is also about providing safe and nutritious meals in an environment in which they feel comfortable and accepted.

All special dietary requests must be written by a physician and submitted to the school nurse and food service office. A copy of the special dietary request form can be found on the school website or in the school nurse’s office

Nutrislice Menus in the Palm of Your Hands

The Nutrislice App powers our school menu, nutrition and allergen information right to your mobile phone. In addition to nutrition information, Nutrislice tells the café menu story with real photos taken by Chartwells chefs in schools, full menu descriptions as well as café event information, nutrition education and food stories helping students connect the food they eat in the café to its origins and health benefits. Nutrislice is FREE and available for download at the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android). Menus can also be found on the Nutrislice website or on the GSL District site.

Search for your menus or find them on the web:
<http://gls.nutrislice.com>.



Thank You and let’s make it a GREAT YEAR!!!

Joni Kimble, Director of Dining Services
Chartwells School Dining Services
320-864-2474 JKimble@gsl.k12.mn.us

Meal Prices for 2026-2027 School Year

Our School offers healthy meals each day. Minnesota’s Free School Meals Programs offers all students one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school.

Although no application is required to receive this free meal benefit, filling out the Application for Educational Benefits is still important! Your child(ren) may qualify for other benefits like reduced fees at school. Your application may also help the school qualify for education funds, discounts, and other meal programs. A new application must be submitted each year. Applications can be found on the school website, at the District Office, or during check in and open house days. Completed applications can be emailed to Heidi Hennessey, HHennessey@gsl.k12.mn.us, dropped off at the District Office, or send to Glencoe-Silver Lake, Attn: Heidi Hennessey, 1621 16th St. E, Glencoe MN 55336.



Students are also able to get a 2nd meal for a cost of \$2.65 for K-6 and \$2.85 for 7-12. An extra milk or to purchase just a milk is \$.50 cents. 7-12 graders are also able to purchase A la Carte items. These purchases are charged to their lunch accounts or can be purchased with cash. **If you wish for your child to NOT have seconds or purchase A la Carte items, contact Heidi Hennessey.**

Heidi Hennessey
Business Services
320-864-2496
HHennessey@gsl.k12.mn.us



Beth Jerabek,
MPH, MSN, RN, PHN, LSN
Glencoe-Silver Lake
District School Nurse
bjrabek@gsl.k12.mn.us

As you prepare for the return to school, here is what you need to know about keeping your child safe and healthy at school:

- Every year GSL’s Health Department asks you to fill out a **health survey** for each of your students. It is very important that you fill this out to the fullest extent each academic year. We do not keep this form from year to year. Old information does not carry over. Student health surveys may be turned in during the Open house.
- **Prescription medications** cannot be given in the school setting until we have received an authorization form with signatures from both the physician and parent.
- **Inhaler/Epi pens:** Please remember that students CANNOT self-carry/self-administer unless it is advised by the physician (this information is included on the form mentioned above).

Student-School Health Information

- **Do you have questions regarding medication administration in schools?** Please review our policy 516, Student Medication Policy (available on GSL’s website at www.gsl.k12.mn.us). If you have further questions please contact me or your student’s building health office.
- **Immunizations:** Please ensure your student is up to date on their immunizations, and that you provided the school with an updated shot record. We check immunization status annually and are required to report our findings to the State of Minnesota.
- **Forms are Online!** You can access health forms mentioned, on the school website. For all students, regardless of age, select “schools” then “high school.” Under the links on the right-hand side, select “health department,” and on the right hand side you can find forms under “Contents.” If you have additional health questions/concerns, please contact your student’s building health office.

Health offices:

- **Please remember:** If your student is sick or unable to attend school for another reason, please contact the appropriate **attendance line:**

Lakeside: 320-864-2503
Lincoln Elementary: 320-864-2665
GSL Junior/Senior High: 320-864-2421

Health Staff:

JR/SR High School:
Lori Eischens, LPN 320-864-2404

Lakeside Elementary:
Angela Laxen, LPN 320-864-2503

Lincoln Elementary:
Sharon Good, LPN 320-864-2665

GSL District Nurse:
Beth Jerabek, MSN, RN, PHN, LSN
320-864-2446



Glencoe-Silver Lake Schools Commnity Education

Welcome Glencoe-Silver Lake district community. Here at GSL we believe that learning enriches our lives at any age. Our Community Education program provides a broad range of learning opportunities that reflect the needs and interests of our community members regardless of age. The goal at GSL is to keep people of all ages active in both mind and body throughout the year. We encourage everyone to spend their time developing a healthy lifestyle, academic strengths, positive social skills and character. Whether you participate in your favorite activity or learn something new – we hope you have fun! In addition, we are always looking for individuals who will share their knowledge and passions by teaching a class. If you are interested in this opportunity or would like to provide feedback on any of our programs, please do not hesitate to contact me at 320-864-2696 or mmenchow@gsl.k12.mn.us. We are also open to new ideas that anyone has to offer. Growing opportunities into our community is another goal for Community Ed this year and with your assistance with hope we can do that at a faster pace. Lastly, we want to thank everyone for the great support to make this all possible.

Please continue to watch your email for our weekly flyer of our latest activities, as well as, some new exciting recreational and enrichment opportunities. You can also find this information on our website at www.gsl.k12.mn.us under the Community Education tab or like our Facebook page “Panther Field House”.



As always, Thank you for supporting GSL Community Education!

Any Questions Please Contact
Matt Muenchow, Community Education Director



Be a Part of Something GREAT, Become Someone GREAT.

The Glencoe-Silver Lake FFA Chapter is home to 7-12 grade Panthers who are HARD-WORKERS, FUN-SEEKERS, and SUCCESS-DRIVEN. Students who join FFA gain

- Public Speaking
- Leadership experience
- Community service
- Career exploration
- Scholarships
- Teamwork
- Confidence
- College and career preparation
- Lifelong Friendships
- SO MUCH MORE!

Check out some common misconceptions we hear and learn why FFA might be the next right move for you!

1. “I don’t know what I’m doing after high school.”

Sometimes this is a scary thought - but exposure to career fields you never knew existed is what FFA is all about. FFA also looks great on resumes. When employers (especially in our town!) see you have been involved in FFA, it tends to make a difference!

2. “I’m not a farmer.”

FFA was established as an organization to build the skills of farmers. The skills of these members caught so much attention that others wanted to be involved. Today, FFA is for students like you - who want to find motivation, confidence, and success.

3. “I’m too busy.”

Yep we get it - so are we! A year-round activity can seem like a big commitment. FFA is an organization that works with your schedule. Pick and choose what you want to get out of it. This isn’t a year-long commitment - this is a year’s worth of opportunities.

4. “I can’t afford it.”

Being involved in activities can be expensive - but we don’t want that to hold our members back. Each year, we work to fundraise and find support for our members, keeping the cost to attend events free or as low as possible. A year-long membership costs only \$30 and includes our annual t-shirt.

5. “That sounds...boring.”

Ask anyone else who is involved in FFA - we do some pretty cool stuff. Monthly meetings range from messy kickball to cook-offs. Travel opportunities exist throughout the nation and even internationally. The friends you make state-wide will be lifelong. Want us to keep going?

Message from the President

“When I started 7th grade, I already knew that I wanted to be part of a program about farming. I was raised with agriculture being a huge part of my life, and whether it was showing my cows at the county fair or helping grandpa at the farm, it was something that I have loved doing my entire life. When I went to the first FFA meeting of the year, I was expecting a bunch of country folk ready to talk about corn and cows. I couldn’t have been more wrong. Instead, I was met by a group of people who were all passionate about the same thing - growing their personal leadership skills and making the community a better place. Since then, my FFA journey has led me down paths that have taught me many life lessons. I found myself competing in competitions that gave me experiences that I can use later in any career. There is always something for everyone in the GSL FFA Chapter, even if you aren’t looking at going into agriculture. Take the chance to step out of your comfort zone, make new friends, and get a good view of the opportunities that will only help you throughout your entire life.” Charlie Nelson | 2026-2027 Chapter President

Students, take a trip to the Ag Room or check out the school website for membership details. Community members, if you are interested in supporting the 100+ GSL FFA Members in your area, please reach out to our advisor, Rebekka Paskewitz at rpaskewitz@gslpanthers.net to explore the fun involved with being an Ag Promoter.

We can't wait to welcome new and returning members for another great year. See you in the Ag Room, Panthers!

Community Schools Program Connects Business Community to GSL

Glencoe-Silver Lake schools will once again be offering the Community Schools program. The purpose of the Community Schools meetings is to connect the business community with the school district. Programs vary from meeting to meeting and different students in 2nd through 12th grade have the opportunity for School meetings during the 2026-2027 school year, contact Superintendent Chris Sonju at 320-864-2498 or at csonju@gsl.k12.mn.us

Welcome Back to School from the PTO!

Our Mission

The PTO is dedicated to enhancing educational experience for all students by fostering strong relationships between parents, teachers, and the school community. We aim to support the school through fundraising, volunteer efforts, and organizing events that bring everyone together.

Upcoming Events

We’re excited to announce a variety of events and activities planned for this year.

Here’s a sneak peek at what’s coming up:

- **Homecoming – October 2** – Tattoo the Teacher! Choose your favorite K-6 teacher or administrator and donate to give them a fun temporary tattoo! Our teachers and staff will proudly wear their tattoos on Homecoming Friday! Then join us before the football game for bounce houses, family fun, and school spirit!
- **Fall Festival – October 23** – A community favorite featuring games, delicious food, and festive activities for all ages as we celebrate the season.
- **Spring Flower Fundraiser** – Welcome Spring with beautiful flowers while supporting our organization! Flower pickup will be on May 5, 2027!

We can’t wait to see you at these events. Stay tuned for more details, including dates, times, and additional activities throughout the year!

How You Can Get Involved

The success of our PTO relies on the involvement of our amazing school community.

Here are some ways you can help:

- **Fundraise:** Support our fundraising efforts and help make a difference for our students. Every dollar raised goes directly back to our K-6 classrooms, helping provide valuable resources and experiences for our school community.
 - **Your support helps fund:** Transportation for field trips, classroom supplies and teacher grants, Teacher Appreciation Week, recess and gym equipment, school programs and special initiatives, and much more!

Together, we can continue creating enriching opportunities for every student. Thank you for supporting our K-6 classrooms!

Stay Connected

To keep up with the latest PTO news and events, please make sure to:

- Follow us on social media: Stay connected and engaged with our community online.
 - Scan the QR code to take you to our Facebook page!



A Note of Thanks

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our dedicated parents, Teachers, and staff members who make our school a wonderful place For children to learn and grow. Your support and involvement are invaluable to us.

Here’s to a fantastic school year ahead! If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please don’t hesitate to reach out via email (gselementarypto@gmail.com), our Facebook page, or send a note to your teacher. We look forward to working together to make this year memorable and successful for all.

Warm regards,

Your PTO Team



GSL BOOSTER Club

2026/27 EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
July 20-30th	New Panther Merch
Fri, Aug 7th, 12:30 start	Golf Tournament / 50/50 raffle
Mon, Aug 17-Aug 24th	Panther Gold Cards
Mon, Aug 31st, 7am-5pm	Garage Sale
Fri, Oct 2nd (Daytime)	Homecoming Parade
Wed, Dec 9th, 4-8pm	Donation night @ Unhinged Pizza
Sat, Jan 30th, 2pm	Yeti Bingo/Meat Raffle/Live Auction
February	SuperBowl Raffle Board
March	March Madness Raffle Board
Wed, May 5th, 7pm	Senior Award Night / Cupcakes
May (Date TBD)	Afternoon at the Softball Park / Raffle (Date TBD)

THANK YOU!

FOR SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS & OUR COMMUNITY!

GO PANTHERS!

District News from the Director of Finance

This year, we are excited to be completing Phase 2 of the Glencoe Campus roofing project. The existing roof has reached the end of its useful life, making replacement essential to prevent leaks, water damage, and costly emergency repairs. Completing Phase 2 this year will ensure the entire building is weather-tight, safe, and ready to continue serving our students, staff, and community for years to come.

Finishing the project this year is also a fiscally responsible investment. Completing the full roof replacement will reduce ongoing maintenance costs, minimize disruptions to campus operations, and help avoid more expensive repairs in the future. By bringing this project to completion, we are safeguarding a valuable community asset and reinforcing our commitment to providing a safe, welcoming, and high-quality learning environment.



Looking ahead, we will continue investing in our facilities with the next phase of roofing improvements planned for the Lakeside Campus in 2027. This proactive approach helps ensure all of our campuses remain safe, well-maintained, and equipped to support learning and serve our communities for years to come.

We're excited to share with contribution from Steven's Seminary, that our auditorium received a major refresh this year with the installation of new seating, flooring, and carpet. In addition to these interior improvements, the roofing project also included the installation of new HVAC system, bringing climate control to the auditorium for the first time. These updates have transformed the space into a more comfortable, attractive, and welcoming environment for students, staff, families, and community members. The improvements not only enhance the appearance of the auditorium but also provide better overall experience for everyone who visits.

This project is an investment in the future of our campus and our community. The new seating, finishes, and HVAC system will improve comfort, reduce maintenance needs, and help preserve the facility for years to come. We are proud to continue enhancing our learning and gathering spaces to support student success and provide a high-quality venue where our community can come together to celebrate, learn, and create lasting memories.



Trisha Zajicek
Director of Finance
320-864-2494
TZajicek@gsl.k12.mn.us

If you have any questions or need further information,
please feel free to reach out to me.
I look forward to supporting our district's goals.



Student Insurance

School recess, one-day field trips, and general day-to-day activities can all lead to injuries. Having coverage during school hours, or around the clock, can ensure your loved ones get the care they need without financial hardship to your family.

Eligibility: Any Enrolled student is eligible for coverage.

K-12 accident plans that are available through Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools:

- School Time Accident Only
- 24-Hour Accident Only
- Interscholastic Sports
- 24-Hour Dental

All available plans are offered by Student Assurance Services. To research which plans are being offered by our school, please visit the link on the front of GSL's website at www.gsl.k12.mn.us.

Payment: Parents or guardians of students are responsible for enrollment and premium payment.

How we enroll:

1. Go to the link on the front of the GSL webpage, "K-12 Student Accident Plan."
2. Click on www.sas-mn.com or scan the QR code for details.
3. Click on K12
4. Scroll Down – Find my school
5. Review plans and complete enrollment form.

Parents can either print and complete the enrollment application to mail with check or money or money order, or you can enroll online and pay by debit or with debit card.

Questions? Call:
Trisha Zajicek, Director of Finance
At 320-864-2494 or email: TZajicek@gsl.k12.mn.us

Title IX Policy

Title IX Coordinator: Superintendent of Schools
Telephone: 320-864-2498 Office: GSL Public Schools
School Address: 1621 East 16th Street Glencoe, MN 55336

Whereas, Chapter 173, Minnesota Laws of 1975, required that districts comply with both state and federal law prohibiting discrimination and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the regulation promulgated thereunder required the adoption of an anti-discrimination policy. The Glencoe-Silver Lake School Board reviews this policy regularly. The most current update is 5/11/2026. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Independent District No. 2859 agrees to comply with federal and state law prohibiting discrimination and requirements imposed by or pursuant to regulation issued thereto, to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, age or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any educational program or in employment, or recruitment, consideration or selection; therefore, whether full-time or part-time under any education program or activity operated by the District for which it received federal financial assistance.

Early Childhood Programs

Registration is now open for our early childhood and school-age care programs.

PANTHER CUB-HOUSE CHILDCARE

We Offer:

☛ Year-Round Programming

☛ 6:30 am- 5:30 pm

☛ Breakfast, Lunch, Snack

☛ 33 Months - Kindergarten Entry

☛ Field Trips

☛ Must be toilet independent

LEARN MORE

kgrack@gsi.k12.mn.us
320.864.2627

Register Now



SCAN ME





GLENCOE-SILVER LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

PANTHER ADVENTURE CLUB

School Age Care

Program Schedule

PAC is open Monday-Friday

During the School Year -
6:30-8:10am & 3-5:30pm
Open for full days during school breaks if attendance allows

Summer Hours -
6:30am - 5:30pm

Part-Time & Full-Time Spots Available!

OUR PROGRAM OFFERS:

• Breakfast, Lunch & Snack

• Field Trips & In-House Camps (Summer)

• Pheonomenal Staff

• A fully structured day

• And MORE!

REGISTRATION, QUESTIONS & MORE INFORMATION:

KGrack@gsi.k12.mn.us | 320.864.2627



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2026 – 2027 Glencoe-Silver Lake Bus Route Information

Glencoe-Silver Lake Bus routes are found on the following pages. Due to data privacy issues, rural bus stops are not printed in this newsletter.

All times are approximate to start the year. Times may be off by five minutes either way and will be adjusted as needed throughout the year.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION
TO BE MAILED TO ELEMENTARY FAMILIES
Please check in your child’s “back-to-school-packet” for the “Census Verification Report.” It contains your child’s bus number and pickup times (if your child is eligible for busing). Please call your child’s school building if you don’t receive the mailing

MORNING TRANSFER INFORMATION
All buses will arrive at GSL junior/Senior High School at 7:35 a.m. Buses will leave at approximately 7:45 a.m. to transfer to lakeside and First Lutheran. Students will ride the following buses to each school:

Lakeside Elementary School:
Bus 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15

First Lutheran School: Bus 4

AFTERNOON TRANSFER INFORMATION
Lakeside Students will be picked up and taken to the Glencoe Campus. All buses will leave the Glencoe Campus at approximately 3:20 p.m.

Glencoe Bus Routes

All bus times are approximate and may be changed during the school year.

Bus #1
6:35 Rural Stops
7:08 Biscay – All students – Ames St & Grant St.
7:15 Rural stops
7:28 Fir Ave. and Part St.

Bus #2
6:45 Rural Stops
7:22 18th St. and Greeley
7:24 18th St. and Ives Ave.
7:26 20th St. and Judd Ave.
7:28 18th St. and Louden Ave.

Bus #3New Auburn
6:50 Rural Stops
7:02 2nd St. and 7th Ave.
7:04 4th St. and 8th Ave.
7:08 6th St. and 6th Ave.
7:27 Glencoe – 7th St. and Baxter Ave.
7:28 7th St. and Elliott Ave.
7:29 9th St. and Elliott Ave.



GSL Busing Eligibility

Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools will provide bus transportation for students who are in:

- Grades K-7 and live over 1 mile walking distance from the school they attend.
- Grades 9-12 and live over 2 miles walking distance from the school they attend.



Call the Bus Garage at 320-864-3032 with questions. All bus times are approximate and may be changed during the school year.

Bus #4
6:30 Rural Stops
7:19 12th St. and Elliott Ave.
7:20 12th St. and Baxter Ave.
7:26 15th St. and Desoto Ave.
7:28 14th St. and Greeley Ave.

Bus #5
6:50 Rural Stops
7:22 Fairway Dr. and Fairway Cir.
7:23 Fairway Dr. and Pleasant Ave.
7:24 1st St. and Edgewood Dr.
7:25 Edgewood Dr. and Mitchell Ln.
7:26 Wooddale Dr. and Reeds Ln.
7:28 Reeds Ln. and Interwood Dr.
7:30 Interwood Dr. and Glenmoore Ln.

Bus #6
6:40 Rural Stops
7:25 16th St. and Cedar St.
7:26 17th St. and Fir Ave.
7:28 18th St. and Birch Ave.
7:31 16th St. and Ford Ave.
7:32 16th St. and Ives Ave.
7:33 16th St. and louden Ave.

Bus #7
6:35 Rural Stops
7:23 11th St. and Baldwin Ave.
7:24 11th St. and Abbott Ave.
7:25 11th St and Stevens Ave.
7:26 9th St. and Stevens Ave.
7:30 14th St. and Baldwin Ave. (Kestrel Park Townhomes)

Bus #8 Lester Prairie & Plato
6:45 Rural Stops
6:53 Pine St. and Central Ave., Lester Prairie
6:56 Blake and Hana/Hope, Lester Prairie
6:58 Lily & hope, Lester Prairie
7:00 Co Rd 9 and Prairie Ridge Ln., Lester Prairie
7:15 1st St. NE and 3rd Ave. NE, Plato
7:18 2nd St. NW and 2nd Ave. NE, Plato
7:19 2nd St. NW and 3rd Ave. NW, Plato

Bus #9
6:40 Rural Stops
7:27 Ford Ave. and Wacker Dr.
7:30 11th St. and Louden Ave.
7:32 11th St. and Owen Ave.

Bus #10 Brownton
6:45 Rural Stops
7:16 4th St. N & 3rd Ave. N
7:17 3rd St. N & 1st Ave. N
7:19 2nd St. N & 5th Ave S
7:20 4th Ave. S and 3rd St. S (Brownton Library)
Grades 3-6 directly to Silver Lake

Bus #11 Brownton
7:08 2nd St. N and 8th Ave. S
7:10 11th Ave. N and Division St.
7:13 6th Ave. S and 3rd St S
7:17 6th St. S and 6th Ave S
7:20 5th Ave. S and 3rd St. S (Brownton Library)
Grades K-2 and 7-12 transferred to Glencoe

Bus Drivers Needed

Stop in to apply at the
GSL Bus Garage
2397 Hennepin Ave N, Glencoe
Or Call
320-864-3032
Must have a good
Driving record.
We will train.

4.0 School Services of
Glencoe-Silver Lake,
Inc.



Who to call if you DO NOT need bus service:

IF YOU HAVE A CHILD OR CHILDREN who are eligible for regular transportation to and from school, but who do not need busing, you may voluntarily waive their busing needs.

You may notify the following transportation official:

Dan Wanous at the
Bus Garage at 320-864-3032



SILVER LAKE BUS ROUTES

Please check in your child’s “Back-to-School-packet” for the “Census Verification Report.” It contains your child’s bus number and pickup times (if your child is eligible for busing). Please call your child’s school building if you don’t receive the mailing.

New families on rural routes should call Dan Wanous at the bus garage with any questions. Buses will arrive at Lakeside Elementary School at approximately 7:15 a.m. and leave at 7:20 a.m. All bus times are approximate and may be changed during the school year.

- Bus #12
- 6:30 Rural stops
 - 7:13 Summit Ave & Center St
 - 7:15 Queen Ave & Center St
 - 7:16 Oliver Ave & Center St
 - 7:17 Main St. W & Lane Ave.
 - 7:20 Lakeside School



- Bus #14
- 6:35 Rural stops
 - 7:15 Lakeside School
- Bus #15
- 6:35 Rural stops
 - 7:12 Railroad St & Grand Ave
 - 7:13 Railroad St & Lake Ave
 - 7:18 Century Lane
 - 7:20 Lakeside School

School Bus Expectations and Policy

All Students must ride their designated buses unless a written note from the parent(s) or guardian(s) is brought to school. If a student is going to ride a different route, a signed note must be presented to the classroom teacher or office. The teacher will sign the note, and it is then handed to the driver of the bus. Without parental and school permission, no student is allowed on an alternate bus route. Buses will stop only at regularly scheduled stops.

Glencoe-Silver Lake school buses transport students in grades K-6 who live more than one mile from the school they attend or students in grades 7-12 who live over two miles walking distance from the school they attend.

The bus driver will make every effort to abide by the schedule. Extremes in weather and poor roads do occasionally cause minor deviation from the schedule. The care and discipline of children on the bus lies solely with the bus driver.

Your assistance is requested to encourage good safety and citizenship. Children are asked to obey the following rules when riding the bus. The bus driver is in charge of enforcing the following rules:

- Walk onto the bus
- Listen to the bus driver
- Use a quiet voice and respectful language
- Sit and face forward
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
- Walk off the buss

All misbehavior cases should be reported to Dan Wanous at the transportation office (320-864-3032).

Parents/guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges. Consequences for elementary students may include, but are not limited to:

- 1st offense – warning
- 2nd offense – 3 -school-day suspension from the bus.
- 3rd offense – 5 -school-day suspension from the bus.
- 4th offense – 10-school-day suspension from the bus/meeting with parent.
- Further offenses – individually considered.

Note: when any student goes 60 transportation days without a report, the student’s consequences may start over at the first offense.

The safety of our students is of primary concern to the bus drivers. Here are “bus stop expectations” to discuss with your child:

- Listen to the supervisor
- Play safely and kind
- Be friendly
- Line up when buses arrive



School Bus Safety

Students will be given school bus safety information the first weeks of school. Training will take place in the classroom and on a school bus. Parents, students and bus drivers play an important role in school bus safety. Bus drivers attend training meeting on issues including first aid, safe driving, and transporting students safely to practice, follow the bus rules and respect the rights and privileges of others. Parents should:

- Make sure students understand the transferring to other buses in the morning and afternoon to get to school and home.
- Make sure elementary students know their name, address, telephone number and bus number.
- Be at the bus stop the first couple of times or until the students is comfortable about the bus stop.
- Send a note along with the student if there are any changes in pick-up or drop-off.
- Remind students to always look both ways before crossing any street or roadway.

You, as the parent/guardian, are responsible for your child’s comprehension of the school bus safety information. Transportation to and from school can be safe and efficient when riders cooperate with the bus driver, teachers and other passengers.

Get together and form a walking bus

Studies show that fewer children are walking and biking to school, and more children are at risk of becoming overweight. Changing behaviors of children and parents require creative solutions that are safe and fun. Implementing a walking bus can be both one of the primary reasons why parents are reluctant to allow their children to walk to school is because of safety issues. Many children are now driven to and from school every day. A walking bus gives more children the opportunity to walk to school safely every day. Items to consider include:

1. The school district is not responsible for students participating in a walking bus. Parents are responsible for their own children.
 2. To begin, invite children from families who live nearby to walk.
 3. Pick a route and take a test walk. Take a look at the sidewalks or paths along the route.
 4. Consider the traffic. How busy are the streets?
 5. Look at the crosswalks along the route. It is easy to cross the street?
 6. Everyone meets at a pre-arranged time and walks to school together more students will join the walking bus just because they see it.
- There are benefits to a walking bus:
1. It’s sociable, healthy and enjoyable
 2. It reduces parking problems near the entrance of school buildings.
 3. Children learn about safety and become more aware of their environment.

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY
STUDENT DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

When dropping off your child(ren) in the morning, please use the west parking lot or the designated area on 16th Street and have your child enter Door 11.

After School pick up will take place at Door 14.

Please use the west parking lot, wait outside, and walk them to your vehicle.



**Data privacy policy
(Release of student information)**

The school will observe the following policy to conform to the requirements of the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974: Student pictures and identifying names will be printed in the school yearbook and all district publications and given to the local news media on occasions that warrant it. However, any student, or the student’s parent, if the student is under the age of 18, may request that his/her picture not be published or information released in the news media or school publications. Requests are to be made in writing to the building principal. **Participation in any group picture implies consent for release of picture with name.** This policy does not apply to pictures taken by the news media or information gathered and printed by the media. Due to yearbook publication deadlines, students must submit requests prior to December 15. The school district recognizes its responsibility in regard to the collection, maintenance and dissemination of pupil records and the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal law and state statutes. Directory information means information contained in an education record of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes, but is not limited to: the student’s name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation of officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous education agency or institution attended. This information is public data on individuals. Directory information does not include personally identifiable data which references religion, race, color, social position or nationality. The parent or adult student has the right to refuse to permit the designation of some or all of the categories as directory information with respect to that particular student. If the parent or student notifies the school district that they don’t want this information designated as directory information, the classification remains private.

Indoor air quality notice

Glencoe-Silver Lake school district is proud to be taking a leadership role in providing a safe, comfortable and productive environment for our students and staff so that we achieve our core mission-education students. Our school will follow the EPA guidance to improve our indoor air quality by preventing as many IAQ problems as possible, and by quickly responding to any IAQ problems that may arise. Good air quality requires an ongoing commitment by everyone in our school because each of us daily makes decisions and performs activities that affect the quality of the air we breathe. School staff, students and parents can obtain checklist or self-help information so they can properly evaluate their child’s home

or other out-of-school situation by contacting the school. Staff and parents can also obtain information about school facility construction, maintenance and housekeeping practices, chemicals used, mold and HVAC related information, chemical producing academic subjects, and pesticide and herbicide applications to determine the extent to which school activities contribute to a child’s symptoms by contacting the school. The Glencoe-Silver Lake School District Indoor Air Quality contact person is Jon Templin, Dashir Management Company, 320-510-0825. If there are any questions regarding the school’s IAQ Program, please feel free to contact the District Office at 320-864-2491.

2026-2027 school year

Asbestos notification

Federal legislation (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act– AHERA) requires each primary and secondary school in the nation to complete a stringent inspection for asbestos and to develop a plan of management for all asbestos-containing building materials. Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools have a goal to be full compliance with this law. As a matter of policy, the district shall continue to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our community’s youth and employees. Jon Templin, Dashir Management Company, is the person designated as Asbestos Program Manager for our schools. He can be contacted at 320-510-0825. An operation and maintenance program is in place through which we respond to our ACBM on a continuing basis. In keeping with this legislation, all buildings owned or leased by Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools were inspected by EPA-accredited inspectors and samples were analyzed by an independent laboratory. Based on the inspection, the school prepared and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for handling the asbestos located within its building safely and responsibly. During the last school year, Glencoe-Silver Lake Public School conducted the following with respects to its asbestos containing building materials: Boiler rooms and tunnels at Lincoln and High School – pipes and glove bagging Federal law required a periodic walk-through (called “surveillance”) every six months of each area containing asbestos. In addition, the law requires all buildings to be re-inspected three years after a management plan is in effect. Environmental Testing & Inspection, Inc. will accomplish this under contract. Areas where management issues are noted during inspections and surveillances have been, and will continue to be, dealt with promptly. Short-term workers (outside contractors, i.e., telephone repair workers, electricians and exterminators) must be provided information regarding the location of asbestos in which they may come into contact. All short-term workers shall contact Jon Templin, Dashir Management Company, 320-510-0825, before beginning work in order to be given this information. Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools has a list of the location(s) and type(s) of asbestos containing materials found in the school building and a description and time-table for their proper management. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for review in the District Office. Copies are available at 25 cents per page. Questions related to the plan should be directed to Daniel Johnson, Environmental Testing & Inspection Inc. 15787 Martin St NW, Andover, MN 55304, 763-370-6266 or by contacting the Glencoe-Silver Lake School District at 320-864-2491.

**Employment and services criminal
history background check
notice to parents**

The school district has adopted a policy, the purpose of which is to promote the physical, social, and psychological well-being of its students. Pursuant to this policy, the school district shall seek criminal history background checks for all applicants who receive an offer of employment with the school district. The school district also shall seek criminal history background checks for all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, regardless of whether compensation is paid. These positions include, but are not limited to, all athletic coaches, extracurricular academic coaches, assistants and advisors. The school district may elect to seek criminal history background checks for other volunteers, independent contractors, and student employees.

Minnesota school districts responsible for identification of students with disabilities

In response to the individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), Minnesota Districts must demonstrate that “all children disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities and who are in need of special education and related services, are identified, located and evaluated.” This responsibility extends to children with disabilities who receive their formal education in a private school. Homeschooled children are considered private school children in Minnesota. Upon request, the Glencoe-Silver Lake Public School District will provide information to concerned parents on specific disabilities including information about the educational or behavioral manifestations of each disability. Parents who believe their child may indeed have a disability may request procedural information on how to arrange for an evaluation through the Glencoe-Silver Lake Public School special education staff. Parents of students who are evaluated and are found to be eligible for special education services will become part of a team that will develop, implement, and monitor the effectiveness of an individualized Education Plan to meet the identified needs of their children. If you have any questions or would like to receive information about specific disabilities or evaluation, please contact the principal of the school building your child would attend in the Glencoe-Silver Lake Public School District if he/she were not being home schooled. The Glencoe-Silver Lake Public School is committed to promoting academic success for its students.

Bullying is expressly prohibited on school district property or at school-related functions

A safe and civil environment is needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships. Bullying, like other violent or disruptive behavior, is conduct that interferes with students’ ability to learn and teachers’ ability to educate students in a safe environment. The school district cannot monitor the activities of students at all times and eliminate all incidents of bullying between students, particularly when students are not under the direct supervision of school personnel. However, to the extent such conduct affects the educational environment of the school district and the rights and welfare of its students and is within the control of the school district and the rights and welfare of its students and is within the control of the school district in its

normal operations, it is the school district’s intent to prevent bullying and to take action to investigate, respond, remediate, and discipline those acts of bullying which have not been successfully prevented. The purpose of Policy 514, Bullying Prohibition Policy, is to assist the school district in its goal of preventing and responding to acts of bullying, intimidation violence, and other similar disruptive behavior. An act of bullying, by either an individual student or a group of students, is expressly prohibited on school district property or at school related functions. This policy applies not only to students who directly engage in an act of bullying but also to students who, by their indirect behavior, condone or support another student’s act of bullying. This policy also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or in any place constitutes bullying that interferes with or obstructs the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of the student, other students, or employees. The misuse of technology including, but not limited to, teasing, intimidating, defaming, threatening, or terrorizing, another student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district by sending or posting email messages, instant messaging, text messages, digital pictures, or images, or website postings, including blogs, also may constitute an act of bullying regardless of whether such acts are committed on or off school district property and/or with or without the use of school district resources, (Refer to Policy 524, Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy, for more information). Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of bullying should report the alleged act(s) immediately to an appropriate school district official. The harassment report form is available from the principal of each building or in school offices, but oral reports will be considered complaints as well. For the complete version of this policy others, go to GSL’s website. www.gsl.k12.mn.us. Go to “District” and then to “Policies.”

Notice concerning use of pest control materials

The GSL school district utilizes a licensed, professional pest control service firm for the prevention and control of rodents, insects, and other pests in and around the district’s buildings. Their program consists of: 1. Inspection and monitoring to determine whether or not pests are present, and whether any treatment is needed; 2. Recommendation for maintenance and sanitation to help eliminate pests without the need for pest control materials; 3. Utilization of non-chemical measures such as traps, caulking and screening; and 4. Utilization of EPA registered pest control materials when needed. Pests can sting, bite, cause contamination, damage property, and spread disease; therefore, we must prevent and control them. The long-term health effects on children from the application of such pests control materials, or the class of materials to which they belong, may not be fully understood. All pests control materials are chosen and applied according to label directions per Federal law. Information about the scheduling of interior pest control inspections and possible treatments is available by contacting Jon Templin, Dashir Management Company at 320-510-0825. Similar information about the scheduling for application of herbicides and other materials to school grounds is also available by contacting Mr. Templin. Parents of students may request to receive prior notification of any application of a pest control material, should such an application be deemed necessary on a day different from the days specified in the schedule. The Glencoe-Silver Lake School District pest control contact person is Jon Templin Dashier Management Company. He can be contacted at 320-510-0825.

Glencoe Silver Lake Activities and Athletics

Please learn to use our school’s website for schedules, directions to sites, and updates. Go to www.gsl.k12.mn.us >Links>Activities Calendar. You may also view the advanced view of the calendar, which notes bus times and any noted comments. Also click on “notify me” if you want e-mails sent when changes are made to schedules. It is also important for parents to use the GSL activity lines. Information is also listed on each activities home page > www.gsl.k12.mn.us > Activities > Athletics > Fall Sports. There is a mobile app that you can download to your phone which you will be able to connect directly to the GSL activities Calendar > www.gsl.k12.mn.us > Links > Activities Calendar > on the right hand side scroll down > Get Mobile App and also sign up for the Notify Me notifications.

The Minnesota State High School League requires that all student athletes have a physical examination performed within the previous 3 years to be eligible for sports. For most students, this means when entering 7th and 10th grade. Students who had an updated or first time sports physical must turn in the form to the GSL Activities Office. Forms are available at the school or online at www.mshsl.org or on the GSL website under each sport.

The activity fees are also listed on the GSL website under each sport. If you need financial assistance, or would like to make payment arrangements for the fee, contact Courtney DeCroock in the GSL Activities Office at 320-864-2455 email: CDeCroock@gsl.k12.mn.us. We want all students who want to be involved in activities to have the opportunity.

Here is a list of what GSL offer and grade level requirements for the fall:

7-12 Cross Country	7-12 Girls Tennis
7-12 Volleyball	7-12 Football
9-12 Cheerleading	7-12Fall Musical
7-12 Art Club	7-12 Science Club
9-12 Boys Soccer COOP with Hutchinson	9-12 Girls Soccer COOP with Hutchinson

In order to protect our students, GSL provides ImPACT Testing. ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) is the first most widely used and most scientifically validated computerized concussion evaluation system. Given the inherent difficulties in concussion management, it is important to manage concussions on an individualized basis and to implement baseline testing and/or post-injury condition and tract recovery for safe return to play, thus preventing the cumulative effects of a concussion.

Thank you and Go Panthers!

Dean Schwirtz
GSL Activities Director
320-864-2402
DSchwirtz@gsl.k12.mn.us



Emergency school closings notification information



School closings due to weather or other emergencies will be announced using School Messenger telephone broadcast system, over the website: www.gsl.k12.mn.us the GSL information telephone line (864-2499 then press “1”), and the following radio and television stations:

Radio Stations	Television Stations
KDUZ (AM 1260)	WCCO (Channel 4) Fox 9 (Channel 9)
KARO (FM 106.9)	KSTP (Channel 5) KARE (Channel 11)

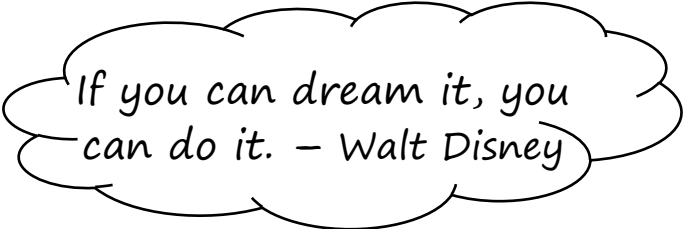
Community Education, Early Childhood Family Education, and Preschool classes, as well as elementary and secondary activities, will not be held when school is closed due to inclement weather. When school is two hours late, there will be no morning Preschool or ECFE classes. Please don’t call the schools to find out early closing information. This ties up the phone lines so that emergency calls can’t get through.

Radio and TV stations will provide a specific closing time (for example: 12:00 noon), rather than listing it building by building. Buses cannot be at all three buildings at the same time, so dismissal times are staggered. Listed below are the scheduled times for a 12:00 noon early dismissal:

Building	Dismissal Time
GSL High School	12:00 noon
GSL Jr. High	12:00 noon
Lincoln Elementary	12:00 noon
Lakeside	11:45 a.m.
First Lutheran	11:50 a.m.

Generally, school will be in session if it is felt that the buses can make their routes in relative safety. However, when weather conditions are questionable, the district’s road conditions are checked and determination is made as to whether or not to start late, dismiss school early, or close.

Even if school is in session, parents are asked to assess their particular situation to determine whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to attend school on a particular day. During inclement weather, parents may take their child(ren) home at any time during the day by reporting to the principal’s office in the building the child(ren) attend(s).



Phone Numbers

District Office	320-864-2491
Chris Sonju/Superintendent of Schools	
District Office.....	320-864-2498
Trisha Zajicek/Director of Finance	
District Office.....	320-864-2494
Heidi Hennessey/Food Service Accounts	
District Office.....	320-864-2496
Jon Templin/Facilities Manager	
Custodian Room.....	320-864-2692
Dan Wanous/Transportation Director	
Bus Garage.....	320-864-3032
Field House	
Front Desk.....	320-864-2690
Matt Muenchow Community Ed	
Director.....	320-864-2696
Early Childhood Learning Center.....	320-864-2681
Comm. Ed. Activities Line	320-864-2487
GSL Jr/Sr High Office	320-864-2400
Matt Foss/7-12 Principal	
GSL High School	320-864-2401
Sarah Beckman/Assistant 7-12 Principal	
GSL Junior High School.....	320-864-2449
Dean Schwirtz/Activities Director	
High School.....	320-864-2402
Courtney DeCroock	
Activities Secretary.....	320-864-2455
Beth Jerabek/District Nurse	
High School.....	320-864-2446
Lincoln Elementary Office.....	320-864-2666
Lakeside Office.....	320-864-2500
Bill Butler/Elementary Principal	
Coordinator of the Title Programs	
& Special Education	320-864-2677
Joy Freitag/Elementary Asst. Principal	
Lakeside Elementary.....	320-864-2501
Jeff Jenson	
Technology Director.....	320-864-2407
Lupita Acevedo	
Interpreter.....	320-864-2686



Minnesota School Districts must provide parents, students, and/or public notification on where to find policies and information. There is a wealth of information available on the GSL Website:

- District Policies
 - School Calendar and Updates
 - Sports and Activities Calendars
 - Lunch Menus
 - Online Payment Systems:
 - Make Lunch Account Payments
 - Pay Activity Fees
 - Pay for Community Ed Classes
- Check School Lunch Account Balance
 - Teacher Websites
 - Staff Directory/Phone Numbers
 - Access Student Grades/Attendance
 - Handbooks
 - Online Forms
 - Event Information
 - Community Ed Information
- Community Ed Catalog
 - PAC/Panther Adventure Club/Childcare
 - ECCE Information
 - ECCE/Preschool Activities/Events
 - School Board Meeting Agendas
 - Minutes of School Board Meetings
 - Notifications
 - And Much More!

									
BOARD APPROVED 4-13-2026									
2026-2027 GSL SCHOOL CALENDAR									
MONTH	M	T	W	TH	F	Class Days			
2026									
AUGUST	3	4	5	6	7				Equals Teacher Workshop - No Students
	10	11	12	13	14				Equals Days School Not in Session (No Students or Staff)
	17	18	19	20	21				Equals Parent/Teacher Conferences - late afternoon and evening
	24	25	26	27	28				Equals Progress Days 7-12 - School is in Session for all students
	31					1	1		August 31 - First Day of Classes 7-12; K-6 Check-in Day
SEPTEMBER		1	2	3	4	3	3		September 1 - First Day of Classes K-6
	7	8	9	10	11	4	4		September 4 - No School
	14	15	16	17	18	5	5		September 7 - Labor Day - No School
	21	22	23	24	25	5	5		
	28	29	30			3	3		
OCTOBER				1	2	2	2		October 12 - 7-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences
	5	6	7	8	9	5	5		October 12 and 13 - Evening K-6 Parent-Teacher Conferences
	12	13	14	15	16	2	3.5		October 14 - K-6 Conference, 7-12 Teacher Workshop - No School
	19	20	21	22	23	5	5		October 15 and 16 - Education Minnesota Conference - No School
	26	27	28	29	30	5	5		October 23 - Mid Tri
NOVEMBER	2	3	4	5	6	5	5		
	9	10	11	12	13	5	5.25		November 25 - Teacher Workshop - No School
	16	17	18	19	20	5	5		November 26 and 27 - Thanksgiving Break - No School
	23	24	25	26	27	2	3		
						57	63.75		END OF FIRST TRIMESTER
DECEMBER	30					1	1		
		1	2	3	4	4	4		
	7	8	9	10	11	5	5		
	14	15	16	17	18	5	5.25		
	21	22	23	24	25	2	2		December 23 - January 1 - Winter Break - No School
	28	29	30	31		0	0		
2027									
JANUARY					1	0	0		January 1 - New Year's Day - No School
	4	5	6	7	8	5	5		January 4 - First Day of Classes - 2027
	11	12	13	14	15	5	5.25		
	18	19	20	21	22	4	4		January 18 - Martin Luther King Day - No School
	25	26	27	28	29	5	5		January 22 - Mid Tri
FEBRUARY	1	2	3	4	5	5	5		February 2 and 4 - K-2 Grade Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences
	8	9	10	11	12	5	5.25		
	15	16	17	18	19	4	4		February 15 - Presidents' Day - No School
	22	23	24	25	26	5	5		
MARCH	1	2	3	4	5	5	5		
						60	60.75		END OF SECOND TRIMESTER
	8	9	10	11	12	4	5		March 8 - Teacher Workshop - No School
	15	16	17	18	19	5	5		March 9 and 11 - 3-6 Grade Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences
	22	23	24	25	26	3	3		March 25 - March 29 - Spring Break - No School
	29	30	31			2	2		
APRIL				1	2	2	2		
	5	6	7	8	9	5	5		
	12	13	14	15	16	5	5.25		April 16 - Mid Tri
	19	20	21	22	23	4	4		April 23 - No School
	26	27	28	29	30	5	5		
MAY	3	4	5	6	7	5	5		
	10	11	12	13	14	5	5.25		
	17	18	19	20	21	5	5		May 28 - Last Day of Schools for Students
	24	25	26	27	28	5	5		May 28 - Graduation Day
	31					0	0		May 31 - Memorial Day
JUNE		1	2	3	4	0	1		June 1- Last Day of School for Staff
	7	8	9	10	11				
	14	15	16	17	18				
	21	22	23	24	25				
	28	29	30						
						55	57.5		END OF THIRD TRIMESTER
						172	182		
Storm Day Note:									
1st & 2nd Storm Days: Snow Days - School Closed/No School									
3rd Storm Day: Martin Luther King Day; 4th Storm Day: President's Day; 5th Storm Day: Easter Monday; 6th Storm Day: End of School Year									
Check the school website for the most current school calendar. https://www.gsl.k12.mn.us/district/school-calendars									



School Hours

School	Start	End
Lincoln Elementary	8:00	3:00
Lakeside Elementary	8:00	3:00
GSL JR/SR High School	8:05	3:10



Horas Escolares

Escuel	Comienzo	Fin
Lincoln Elemental	8:00	3:00
Lakeside Elemental	8:00	3:00
GSL JR/SR High School	8:05	3:10